

CLAIMS:

1. A system for identification of animals, the system  
5 including an animal identification device (12,13) adapted for application to an animal and a device (17) for secure storage (17) of organic material taken from the animal to be identified by the identification device, the storage device (17) and identification device (12,13) each being marked with a common identifier (18,18a).
2. The system of claim 1 wherein the identification device (12,13) and the storage device (17) are mounted, prior  
15 to use, in a holder (11).
3. The system of claim 2 wherein the holder can be in the form of a moulded tray (11).
- 20 4. The system of any one of claims 1 to 3 wherein the identification device is an animal eartag or a bolus.
5. The system of claim 4 wherein eartag, it is a two-component eartag (12,13).
- 25 6. The system of any one of claims 1 to 5 wherein the storage device (17) is removably secured to the or one component (12) of the eartag.
- 30 7. The system of any one of claims 1 to 6 wherein the identification device can also be formed by an electronic identification device (27).

8. The system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims wherein the common identifier (18,18a) is an alpha, numeric or alphanumeric marking.
- 5 9. The system as claimed in any one of claims 1 to 7 wherein the common identifier is an on-farm management identifier used for visual identification of the animal.
- 10 10. The system of claim 7 wherein the common identifier can be part of the unique number (29) of an electronic identification device (27).
- 15 11. The system of claim 2 wherein the tray (11) includes a recess (14) configured to removably retain the head of a male part (12) of an eartag which forms the identification device.
- 20 12. The system of claim 11 wherein the tray (11) includes a retention device with which a female part (13) of the eartag is removably retained.
- 25 13. The system of claim 11 wherein the retention device includes a recess (16) in which a part of the female part of the eartag can reside, and a stud onto which the female part can be installed.
- 30 14. The system of claim 11 further including a second recess (26) for the head of a male part (28) of a second identification device and a second recess (25) with stud (15) for a female part of a second identification device.

15. The system of claim 14 wherein the second identification device is an electronic identification device (29).
- 5 16. The system of any one of claims 11 to 15 wherein the tray (11) is formed as one of a plurality of conjoined trays.
- 10 17. The system of any one of claims 11 to 16 wherein the tray (11) is of a plastic moulded form.
18. The system of any one of claims 11 to 17 wherein the common identifier is an on-farm management identifier used for visual identification purposes.
- 15 19. The system of claim 18 wherein the common identifier forms part of a unique number of an electronic identification device.
- 20 20. A method of identification of an animal including providing an animal identification device marked with an identifier marking, a secure storage device, the secure storage device also being marked with the same identifier marking, taking a sample of organic material from the animal and placing the sample in the secure storage device and applying the identification device to the animal and placing the storage device in a secure storage facility.
- 25 30 21. A system for identification of animals substantially as herein described with reference to the accompanying drawings.